

Tell Us About Your Wreck

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If you have ever been in a motor vehicle crash, it's something you'll always remember and probably something you wish you could forget. You've experienced something that most people never want to go through. You, more than anyone else, know the message we're trying to get across to others in the military services.

Whether or not you were wearing your safety belt, we'd like you to write about your experience. Your story can do more to point out the importance of safe driving habits (being buckled up, being sober, and being alert) than any lecture can.

Let us know if your crash changed your attitude about wearing safety belts or the way you plan a trip, or made you realize the importance of watching out for the other driver.

When I talk to people about their crashes or see photos, it makes me realize that these crashes are not faked like the ones in the movies. There are no second takes. These are real, and they happen to people like you and me.

Write us, e-mail us, or come see us. You can help convince those few holdouts who still have some silly excuse for not wearing seat belts.

Our *Ashore* editor promises me she will publish as many stories as she can. I'll make sure you get a copy of the magazine (suitable for sending home to a sweetheart, family members or friends, who are thankful that you're still around). If you were wearing your seat belt, we'll also send you an "I Survived" certificate. If your story is printed in *Ashore*, you will also receive a thank-you gift for getting your article published.

To receive an application for your "I Survived" certificate, call us at (757) 444-3520, Ext. 7135, download the application from our web site: www:safetycenter.navy.mil or send an e-mail to mbrigham@safetycenter.navy.mil. Send articles directly to the editor of this magazine. Please include your full name, rank, command, address, phone number, e-mail address, date of the crash and details. 

When in Rome...

If you pull into a port in Italy, expect to see some changes. No more will you see Italians riding mopeds or scooters with their hair blowing in the wind. If they do, it's going to cost them \$190 in fines. That's the price for riding a motor scooter or moped without a helmet.

Italian politicians have vowed to have no tolerance for moped or scooter riders who don't wear helmets, and police are handing out fines in an effort to curb the hundreds of fatal crashes each year.

The new law aims to cut the number of deaths on Italy's roads by 40 percent by 2010.

The Public Works Undersecretary, Mauro Fabris, said, "Every year in Italy, 700 people die in bike accidents, and more than 55 percent could have been saved if their heads had been protected." 



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